

## Message Text

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16

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 MC-02 ACDA-05 IO-10 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 /095 W

----- 069623

R 100615Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2821

INFO COMIDEASTFOR

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABU DHABI 0763

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MMOL, TC

SUBJ: FRENCH ARMS DEAL

1. ABU DHABI DEFENSE FORCE OFFICERS INFORMED US OF 54 MILLION STERLING ARMS DEAL REPORTEDLY SIGNED BY MAHDI TAJER AND FRENCH PANHARD MFR. THE AGREEMENT CALLS FOR ADDF TO ACQUITE OVER 150 PANHARD ARMORED CARS WITH 90 MM GUNS, SUFFICIENT ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS FOR ONE INFANTRY BRIGADE AND ADDITIONAL APC'S MOUNTED WITH FRENCH 20 MM GUNS, PLUS COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMAND APC'S. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VEHICLES INVOLVED IN THE DEAL IS NOT KNOWN.

2. THIS INFORMATION CAME AS A SHOCK TO LOCAL DEFENSE FORCE FIELD OFFICERS INCLUDING BRITISH SECONDED COMMANDER AND ARMORED FORCE COMMANDER, BOTH OF WHOM HAVE HAD HELD THE FRENCH VEHICLE AS A POOR CHOICE OVER ITS BRITISH COUNTERPART THE SARACEN. WHY PANHARD WON OUT NOT CLEAR, BUT RUMORS INCLUDE LARGE 10 PERCENT KICKBACK BY FRENCH TO TAJER AND POSSIBLY ADDF CHIEF OF STAFF FAISAL AL-QASIMI. WHATEVER THE EXPLANATION, THE FRENCH, WHO HAVE REPORTEDLY ALSO SOLD CROYTALE MISSILES

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TO ADDF, OBVIOUSLY HAVE STRONG POSITION IN ABU DHABI ARMS

MARKET.

PEALE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY PROCUREMENT, MILITARY EQUIPMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ABUDH00763  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750125-0066  
**From:** ABU DHABI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750464/aaaacgzs.tel  
**Line Count:** 63  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH ARMS DEAL  
**TAGS:** MMOL, TC, FR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006